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in the case of a courtmartial are quite different from those in the case of a common law trial. It is also to be presumed that the courts-martial will be less rigid in applying strict interpretations as to the admissibility of evidence.

Returning again to our first problem of the separation of tribunals, it will be recalled that the assizes of Clarendon arose from precisely the same kind of a situation concerning the separation of tribunals when offenses were committed either by a layman with a churchman alone or by a combination either of the one sort or the other. The question in dispute was—whether church courts should try the offenders against the law or whether the common law courts should try them. One illustrious case is that of Judge Salmon de Roffe or Solomon of Rochester, who in the time of Edward I was apparently poisoned by a clerk in the church, and it was a long time before the question of where the clerk should be tried was settled. The celebrated case of St. Thomas of Canterbury is known to every reader of history, and how this famous prelate who fought vigorously for the trial of churchmen by the church, lost his life in a conflict with the king. If the king had lost, the authority of the church to punish such offenders and to maintain its own system of jurisprudence would have persisted. In the present case, the question is one of a more or less temporary nature inasmuch as it is decidedly to be hoped that war in general and this war in particular will not be of long duration, but problems of this kind are sure to arise in the very near future.

GEORGE F. DEISER.

DELINQUENCY IN WAR TIME

Our attention has repeatedly been called to an increase in the volume of juvenile delinquency in our cities and towns since the beginning of the European war. The *London Times* on November 8, 1916, quoted statistics to show that in various localities in England, in the course of the twelve-month preceding that date, juvenile delinquency had increased as much as 50% to 75%. (See this JOURNAL, March, 1917, p. 925.). Mr. Joel D. Hunter in this JOURNAL for July, 1917, p. 287, quotes from the Report on Dependent and Delinquent Children for 1916 from the Province of Alberta, which shows an increase of 25% in the total cases of juvenile delinquency in that province as compared with the preceding year.

Both in England and in Canada this unwelcome phenomenon has been believed to be due chiefly to the fact that in thousands of in-

stances fathers and older brothers are away. The increased delinquency, therefore, is described as a consequence of the "broken" or "crippled" home. There is, undoubtedly, much truth in this contention. The excellent study by Mr. Shideler reported in the present number, and others of the sort as well, support the view. But Mr. Hunter, in the note referred to above, quotes figures from his own office—Probation Department of the Juvenile Court of Cook County, Illinois—to show that from May, 1916, to May, 1917, within the jurisdiction of his office, juvenile delinquency had increased more than 50% notwithstanding that within that period there had been practically no "breaking" or "crippling" of homes here on account of enlistments. The industrial system was at its best and schools were in operation as usual. As compared with the year preceding the distinguishing feature of the one referred to is a series of exciting events of war, which are vividly pictured in the daily press, in the lecturer's story and in the moving picture. These, it must be assumed, stimulate the imagination and the spirit of adventure in the young and so contribute to the swelling tide of delinquency. If this is correct, obviously, there is need for counter irritants. To supply them is to render a national service of such generous proportions that it should solace one who is unable to enter more directly into war work, and stimulate the ingenuity of the best personalities. The success of teachers, scoutmasters, play-ground directors, probation officers, etc., in meeting their responsibilities in these times will spare us the embarrassment of wasted energy at home and help to assure progress in all aspects of public welfare after the war.

ROBERT H. GAULT.